

# Your County in Touch

Issue No. 45, March 13, 2015

## High school grand opening at Bold Center hosts dignitaries



County Councillors, Northern Lights School Division (NLSD) representatives and students gathered to celebrate the official grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony for the new J. A Williams (JAWS) High School at the Bold Center on March 4, 2015. From left, the Honourable Gordon Dirks, Alberta's Minister of Education, Arlene Hrynyk, NLSD Board Chair, Terry Moghrabi, JAWS principal, Rick Cusson, NLSD Superintendent and Omer Moghrabi, the County's Mayor. Dignitaries hailed the new school at the Bold Center as a model for the rest of the province.

## RCMP Leo Johnston memorial bursary opens to public donation

Lac La Biche County and Portage College are partnering to create an endowment fund that will see the continuation of the RCMP Constable Leo Johnston Memorial Scholarship and Bursary into the future.

The scholarship was originally established in 2006, one year after Constable Leo Johnston and his three colleagues lost their lives in the line of duty near the community of Mayerthorpe, Alberta. The County sponsored the bursary in honour of former Lac La Biche County resident Constable Johnston, and contributed \$10,000 annually.

In 2013, Lac La Biche County renewed the agreement with Portage College to

maintain annual contributions until the 2018/2019 academic year. As part of the agreement, any remaining funds can be used to establish an endowment fund. Now individuals or organizations who wish to donate can also contribute to the new fund.

Since the inception of the Leo Johnston Memorial Scholarship and Bursary, \$26,000 has been awarded to students pursuing a career in law enforcement and criminology. The creation of this endowment fund will serve to remind new generations of the heroic lives of Constable Johnston and his fellow officers.

## County seeking public members to serve on Council committees

Lac La Biche County is seeking public members-at-large to serve on Council committees, including the Agricultural Service Board, the Family and Community Support Services Advisory Board, and the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board.

All members-at-large are paid for their service, and are reimbursed for expenses while performing their duties.

According to Lac La Biche County's Member-at-Large Selection Policy, all applicants must submit a cover letter, resume and questionnaire. Applications should be made to the attention of Melanie McConnell, Interim Assistant Chief Administrative Officer, by 4:30 pm on Tuesday, March 31, 2015.

Call County Centre office at 780-623-1747 for more information, or to get a copy of our Member-at-Large Selection Policy (which includes the application questionnaire).

You can also visit [laclabichecounty.com](http://laclabichecounty.com) for more information.

## Lac La Biche County hiring seasonal summer workers

Lac La Biche County is looking for enthusiastic and reliable seasonal workers to fill positions from April 1 to October 31. Seasonal workers will gain valuable experience while they test out potential career paths.

To be eligible for seasonal work, you must be at least 15 years old by the first day of employment. You must be able to perform physically-demanding activities and, depending on the department you've applied to work with, be familiar with all tools of the trade (i.e. weed eaters, mowers, hedgers, etc.). Finally, you must have excellent communication skills, the ability to interact effectively with the public, and strong teamwork skills.

Preference will be given to Lac La Biche County residents, along with candidates returning to school full-time in the fall.

In order to apply, you'll need to submit a resume and cover letter to [hr@laclabichcounty.com](mailto:hr@laclabichcounty.com). Please mention the department you're interested in working with in the subject line of your email.

There are a variety of County departments seeking seasonal workers. So, before you submit your application, check out our full posting at [www.laclabichcounty.com/current-opportunities](http://www.laclabichcounty.com/current-opportunities).

## Curbside Pick Up FAQs

Got questions? We have answers. If you are part of the Curbside Pick Up service area and have questions about the County's Curbside Pick Up service, visit [laclabichcounty.com](http://laclabichcounty.com) to read our list of Frequently Asked Questions—and answers!

## Pre-Incident Site Planning and Emergency Response Action Plans

*Lac La Biche fire fighters (left to right) Stephane Durocher and Curtis Lafreniere are out collecting contact information for the owners and managers of the hamlets' businesses. Next, they will be sending out information about completing Pre-Incident Site Planning and Emergency Response Action Plans (ERAPs).*

*Pre-Incident Site Planning ensures fire fighters know all the ingress and egress points, building construction materials and any possible hazards for each building. ERAPs help businesses plan for possible emergency situations. Both improve response and safety during a fire or emergency event. Call 780-623-6774 for more information.*



## Got your permit? March 1 marked start of fire permitting season

Fire permit season began March 1, 2015. Residents are required to have a permit for all burns.

All burning activities in Alberta's Forest Protection Area ("green zone"), excluding campfires, will require a permit from Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development. All burning activities outside the "green zone" require

a fire permit from the County.

If the County's Fire Services are called to respond to a burn that does not have a permit, residents can be charged for the emergency response.

Call 780-623-6767 to request a fire permit from Lac La Biche County Protective Services.

## Council updates County's agriculture policies and procedures

Council recently approved updates to some of the County's agricultural policies and procedures.

### Supply and Sale of Pesticides

The amended policy and procedure for the sale of pesticides by the County states that only residences with over 80 acres, or residents with a valid Acreage Owner Pesticide Applicator Certificate will be eligible to purchase herbicides from the County.

### Agriculture Service Board Bursary

Every year the County offers two \$1,000 bursaries to post-secondary students taking agriculture or agriculture-related

programs in school. The new policy and procedure requires that in addition to being advertised for two weeks in the local paper, the bursaries will also be advertised in the Intouch newsletter and at all area high schools, Portage College and other applicable institutions in the area.

### Veterinary Services Incorporated Contract Renewal

Council renewed the County's contract with Veterinary Services Incorporated (VSI). The County provides assistance to livestock producers by helping with the cost and practise of local veterinary services, through the VSI program.

## County's Family Day Festival attended by over 400 residents



*Left, Miada Hattum, one of the County's Program Leaders, at the County's Family Day Festivities on February 16.*

*The event was a great success with well over 400 residents attending with their family and friends.*

*Families spent the day skating, sledding, snowshoeing, ice fishing and enjoying hot dogs roasted over the fire pit. The horse drawn sleigh rides were also a big hit!*

*Thanks to all the residents who came out to take part and to Independent Grocers, Sobeys and Stuart Sales and Rentals for their support of the event.*

## Reduce the amount of paper in the landfill, recycle your old books

The County's Environmental Stewardship Advisory Committee (ESAC) attended the Stuart MacPherson *Love Your Libraries* event on March 7 and handed out information on book recycling.

Do you have books you want to get rid of? There are lots of ways to recycle them. If your books are in good condition and meet the library's criteria, you can donate them to the Stuart MacPherson Library or

to a thrift store. If your books are in decent condition, you can send them to a Third World Country—for more information on this visit [stuartmacphersonlibrary.ca](http://stuartmacphersonlibrary.ca).

If you need to recycle your books, you can put them in your Curbside recycling container or in paper recycling at one of the County's landfills or transfer stations.

Visit ESAC's page on the County website for more information on book recycling.

## Aurora students take part in municipal government process



*Mrs. Raffael's Grade 6 class from Aurora Middle School attended a Regular Council Meeting on February 24.*

*The class, who had been learning about government in Social Sciences took part in the municipal process by presenting a petition to Council.*

*The class requested more school and speed signage along the access road south of the school.*

*Council directed Administration to look into the County's Traffic Bylaw and address the request.*

## National Volunteer Week next month; nominate local volunteers for luncheon

National Volunteer Week happens this year from April 12 to April 18, and celebrates volunteers across Canadian communities.

Lac La Biche County is built on the contributions of a group of dedicated volunteers, who coach organized sports, create social programs for children and seniors, and plan key events (like Lac La Biche Pow Wow Days and the Plamondon Mud Bogs). That's why Lac La Biche County's Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) & Community Development department is planning activities to celebrate National Volunteer Week locally.

On Monday, April 13, FCSS & Community Development will be holding an invitational volunteer luncheon. Residents are asked to fill out a form - available from County offices and on [laclabichecounty.com](http://laclabichecounty.com) - to nominate volunteers who've made contributions to the County.

"Recognizing a volunteer who had a special impact on you, a family member, or friend is an excellent way to thank them," says Anita Polturak, Manager of FCSS & Community Development. "Volunteers are everywhere in the County and affect us all, so we encourage everyone to nominate someone who made a difference in your life."

To personally meet and thank volunteers, FCSS & Community Development staff will travel to Lac La Biche County's outer rural areas during that week, bearing gifts and treats. The week will end with a meet-and-greet bistro for all volunteers and those interested in volunteering in the Bold Center on Friday, April 17.

For more information, call 780-623-6726.

Your County in Touch is produced by Lac La Biche County and available to every resident.

An electronic version of this newsletter is available. All you need to do is call 780-623-1747 or provide your e-mail address to [intouch@laclabichedcounty.com](mailto:intouch@laclabichedcounty.com).

Use the same contact information for any address changes, additional copies or to unsubscribe.



## Dates to Remember

### April 3, 2015

Good Friday. All County offices will be closed. They'll reopen at 8:30 am on Tuesday, April 7.

### April 6, 2015

Easter Monday. All County offices will be closed. They'll reopen at 8:30 am on Tuesday, April 7.

### April 12 to 18, 2015

National Volunteer Week. See page 3 for more information.



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## Expanded Training Areas in Cenovus Fitness and Wellness Area and CNRL Walking track



Bold Center staff recently installed a Crossfire Conquest Circuit Training Unit (pictured above) in the CNRL Walking track area. The new equipment (donated by the Apple Fitness Store) should offer users more challenging workouts, as well as free up space in the Cenovus Fitness and Wellness Area during the Bold Center's busiest times. If you're interested in expanding your fitness routine, keep an eye out for the upcoming Spring Fitness Program Guide - there will be a noon-hour fitness class incorporating the Crossfire unit.

Installing the Crossfire unit is part of a larger plan to make the Bold Center a safer and more versatile workout area. You may see changes to both the Cenovus Fitness and Wellness Area in the coming months, as staff work to create designated areas for certain types of equipment (spin, stretching, or crossfire units) and expand floorspace.

Both the boxing area and the CALA room, previously only available to sports groups renting the Bold Center, are also available for public use (when not in use for classes or rentals).

Like the Bold Center's Facebook page to stay updated on changes to the workout areas. You can also call us at 780-623-3829 for more information.